

RECEIVED

MAY 24 2001 RCE

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

(08-00) APR 1 2002 OMB 0651-0031



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, you are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/241,636

Filing Date 2-2-1999

First Named Inventor Ellen Heath

Group Art Unit 1655

Examiner Name Lisa B. Arthur

Attorney Docket Number 5253

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, the applicant may wish to consider filing a continuation-in-part application (CIPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO Form 29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Prosecution Application Practice, Final Rule, 66 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
 - ii. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
 - iii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iv. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 - b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 18-1945
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 05/23/2001 WKDORMA 00000099 181945 09241636
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 02 FC:27 355.00 CH
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Gregory J. Clover	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,173
Signature		Date	5-22-2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)		Date
Signature		

Burden Note Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.